

Abstract

The past two decades witnessed unprecedented urban growth in China, amidst the transition from a socialist central-planned economy to a socialist market economy. This, together with a land tenure system reflecting institutionalized urban-rural divide, has produced community and housing types characterized by distinct socio-occupational mixes and built-environment features. Using data from a household survey conducted in Guangzhou, this paper analyses the interrelationship between neighbourly relations and community attachment, on the one hand, and neighbourhood satisfaction, on the other, and examines how such relationships are conditioned by the built environment of the residence. The results show that local networks are generally weakened in commodity housing enclaves. However, commodity communities exhibit higher community attachment and satisfaction, even though gating appears to have minimal effects on community attachment.